



**TESTIMONY OF
JENN JENNINGS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CT PLUMBING, HEATING & COOLING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
BEFORE THE
FINANCE, REVENUE & BONDING COMMITTEE
MARCH 22, 2010**

CT-PHCC **opposes** SB-484 An Act Concerning the Governor's Revenue Plan because of the provisions contained within it that will divert funds from the CT Clean Energy Fund and Energy Efficiency Funds. This measure would result in the undermining of Connecticut's efforts to encourage residents and businesses to be more energy efficient by using energy cost-effective products.

The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund is funded through a surcharge on electric ratepayers' monthly bill. It provides grants, rebates and loans to customers who install energy efficient products, such as solar thermal systems and geothermal heat pumps. The program has been very successful in promoting the development and use of energy efficient products to help residents and businesses control energy costs.

Due to the lack of adequate funding, programs such as the solar rebate program have been periodically suspended. Many consumers and contractors have invested a lot of time and resources to gain expertise and market with new energy efficiency products and appliances and this is a setback to them.

During this economic downturn that Connecticut has been facing, a positive thing has been the growth of "green jobs". Consumers and businesses have been replacing their appliances in their homes and businesses with energy efficient ones in an attempt to reduce their costs as well as be friendly to the environment.

The diverting of the funds from the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund will be yet another measure that will make Connecticut less competitive than other states that are continuing to invest in energy efficiency incentive programs.

Therefore, we urge members of the committee to **oppose** efforts to divert these funds from the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment today.

CT-PHCC is a not-for-profit trade association that represents the professional plumbing, heating and cooling contractors in the state of Connecticut. CT-PHCC and its members are committed to protecting the health and safety of the public. Contractors who belong to the association have demonstrated reliability and trustworthiness and are licensed by the state of Connecticut.